

LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.Medical Officer's Report for the year ending December 31st, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of
the District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1948.

As the year in question is noteworthy by the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act on the 5th July, many changes in health administration have taken place, and are likely to be more fully developed as and when time permits. One such change has been the regulation whereby part-time Medical Officers were replaced, through the regrouping of smaller districts with neighbouring districts having whole-time officials, by one official who would undertake the work entailed for the larger area so constituted.

Acting, therefore, upon the advice of the Cheshire County Council, your Council appointed myself as Medical Officer of Health as from the 5th July, on which date the services so well rendered in the past by Dr. I. B. Ogun were terminated.

Due to the fact that such a vast project was inaugurated throughout the country with insufficient available personnel, delays in the transitional stage have occurred. One result has been that, although my duties have been extended in the capacity of a Medical Officer of Health, the authorities responsible for relieving me of hospital work - amounting to 50% of my duties - had not been able to release me by the end of the year.

Consequent upon this, and through having such diverse duties, I regret that delay has occurred in presenting the statistical figures relating to the year in question. The time at my disposal has had to be devoted only to the most urgent matters occurring in my official capacity.

It might be opportune to make it clear upon this occasion that, as your Medical Officer of Health, I am responsible to your Council for environmental health services, such as the prevention of Infectious Diseases, Housing, Water Supply, Food Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene. I also act as Divisional Medical Officer of the Cheshire County Council, and responsible to that authority - the new Local Health Authority - through a Divisional Health Committee for services within your Council's area relating to:-

Maternity and Child Welfare.
Midwifery.
Health Visiting.
Home Nursing.
Vaccination and Immunisation.
Care and After Care during illness.
Domestic Help.
Mental Health.
Education in Health.
Ambulance Transport.

The latter services form part of the Cheshire Divisional Scheme of Administration, and come under the purview of the Hyde, Longdendale and Tintwistle Divisional Committee, upon which your Council is represented by three members.

Prior to the 5th July the Cheshire County Council was already administering some of these services e.g., School Medical, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Immunisation, whereas Ambulance transport was administered by a neighbouring Borough. Since that date these, along with the other services innumarated above, are available to the residents of Hollingworth, Mottram and Broadbottom and are administered from a central Divisional Office located in the Borough of Hyde.

These developments, although not the responsibility of the Longdendale Council, are mentioned here as matters which concern the general health service in the area.

I submit the figures relating to Births, Deaths, and Infectious Diseases for the whole year, although I am in a position to accept responsibility only for the period following the 4th July.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

Registrar General's estimate for 1948 is 4,568.

Births.

There were 67 births during 1948. Of these 36 were males and 31 females.

Three illegitimate children are included.

The Birth Rate was 14.7 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 16.3 for 1947 and 17.9 for the country as a whole.

Deaths.

The number of deaths during 1948 was 59. Of these 24 were males, and 35 females.

The Death Rate was 12.9 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 14.1 for 1947 and 10.8 for the country as a whole.

The principal causes of death were:-

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Heart and Circulation.	10	18	28
Cancer.	3	4	7
Tuberculosis.	3	-	3
Bronchitis.	1	-	1
Pneumonia.	-	3	3
Violence and Accident.	3	3	6
Nephritis.	-	3	3
Other Causes.	4	4	8

Infant Mortality.

There was 1 death among infants, making an Infant Mortality rate of 14.9 per 1,000 births.

Maternal Mortality.

No deaths occurred as the result of pregnancy.

Infectious Diseases.

Since the 4th July, 1948, the following cases were notified to me.

Measles	8	(Nursed at home).
Whooping Cough.	12	(" " ").
Scarlet Fever.	2	(Admitted to hospital).

<u>Tuberculosis.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
The number of cases on the register on 31/12/47 was	23	11
" " " " removed from register during 1948 was	5	3
" " " " added to " " " "	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>
" " " " Remaining on " on 31/12/48	23	8

General Provision of Health Services.

General Hospitals.

The majority of cases attend the District Infirmary and the Lake Hospital, Ashton-U-Lyne. A small proportion are also admitted to Manchester Infirmary and Stockport Infirmary.

Infectious Cases are admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Hyde.

Maternity Cases are admitted to the Ashton Hospitals.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Two District Nurses attend the sick at home upon the request of the Family doctors. One nurse is employed for the Mottram and Broadbottom cases and part-time is given by the other nurse whose area includes Hollingworth and the neighbouring area of Tintwistle.

On the 5th July this service became the responsibility of the Cheshire County Council, when arrangements were made under the provisions of the National Health Act to extend this service in order that both nurses be fully employed in order to cover more fully the needs of the area.

One midwife, resident in Hollingworth, is available for Longdendale and Tintwistle. The arrangements for Ante-Natal supervision, at present carried out at her private address, will eventually be improved when an all-purpose clinic premises is established.

Allied to the nursing services is the provision of domestic helps in the homes of patients during the lying-in periods and also in cases of sickness amongst mothers with young children, aged persons living alone, etc. In its infancy at present, it would appear that for this service one full-time domestic help should suffice for this purpose.

Ambulance Service.

The area is covered by the H&A Division of the Cheshire County Council for both general and infectious cases.

The number of cases conveyed by Ambulance or Sitting Case Cars was as under,

To Ashton Hospitals.	385.
" Manchester Hospitals.	47
" Stockport Hospitals.	<u>8</u>
	<u>440</u>

Clinic Facilities.

For Maternity and Child Welfare purposes the Clinic held in St. Mary's Sunday School, Hollingworth, continued open twice per month, and for School children, one session per week is available at Hollingworth Council School.

Provisions for establishing an all-purposes clinic premises in a building set apart wholly for the purpose and also for M. & C.W. work in the Wesley Methodist Sunday School, Broadbottom, were in course of consideration at the end of the year.

These extensions of the service form part of the Cheshire County Council Scheme of Health Administration under the provisions of the National Health Act, 1946, and will afford the local residents better facilities than hitherto have been available.

General Sanitation.

I am appreciative of the assistance given to me by Mr. Swindells your Sanitary Inspector through whose valuable experience the Council will benefit in the aspects of hygiene with which he is entrusted.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

F. W. C. TROWN.

Medical Officer of Health.

Municipal Buildings,
Greenfield Street,
Hyde.
November, 1949.



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LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members
of the District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1948.

NEW BUILDINGS ERECTED DURING YEAR.

Council Houses.	24
Private.	2
Other Buildings.	7

CONVERSIONS OF BUILDINGS.

Houses to combined house and business.	1
Two houses converted to one.	1

INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING YEAR.

(a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	62
(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose.	144

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	62
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Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-
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Remedy without Formal Action.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.	56
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Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Statutory Notices were served on the owners during the year requiring defects to be remedied.	6
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Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of Statutory Notices having been served.	-
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Number of dwelling houses still unfit but work commenced.	6
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Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Statutory Notices were served on the owners during the year requiring defects to be remedied.	-
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Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as consequence of informal Notices having been served.	56
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Number of dwelling houses still unfit.	-
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TENTS, SHEDS AND VANS.

A case of unauthorised use of land as a camping site was brought to light at
the close of the year and this matter is still in hand.

NUISANCES - ACTION TAKEN AND RESULTS (including nuisances re houses).

Sanitary Inspections.	1077
Statutory Notices served.	6
Informal Notices served.	57
Nuisances abated with or without notice.	329

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the district was satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year. Nine premises on Edge Lane, Mottram have been transferred from private to public supply.

Supply.	1,000 galls per day.			Served.		Gls. per head per day.
	Total.	Business.	Domestic.	Houses.	Population.	
Hollingworth.	51.94	5.83	46.11	656	1830	25.5
Mottram, & Broadbottom.	46.57	6.62	39.95	861	2510	15.9
Total.	98.51	12.45	86.06	1517	4340	19.82

About 186 dwellings housing 260 persons are served by private water supply from pumps, springs and wells.

SCAVENGING - HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

We have now in the district approximately the following:-

Privy middens.	1
Pail Closets.	732
Ashbins.	1470
Waste Water Closets.	52
Freshwater Closets.	913
Freshwater Closets Trough.	12
Baths.	462

The supervision of the work of refuse removal is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor and wherever possible this is done weekly. Disposal is on the Council's tips adjacent to Broadbottom Road and Woolley Lane.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, ETC.

		<u>Other districts.</u>
Premises registered as suitable for cowkeeping.	39	
Premises registered as suitable for dairies.	36	
Cowkeepers (i.e. milk not for sale)	3	
Registered Producers.	36	
Registered Retailers (Inc. shops)	53	7
Registered Wholesalers.	35	Nil.

All classes of milk are sold in the district. One farm produces T.T. milk and 11 accredited.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

There are 19 premises registered for the preservation and preparation and storage of food for sale and 5 premises registered for sale of ice cream. All are regularly inspected and at present are satisfactory.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

No food has been seized as unfit for human consumption but a quantity of butcher's meat, canned and dry goods have been voluntarily surrendered during the year. No complaints have been laid against sellers by purchasers.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<u>Cattle excluding cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep & lambs.</u>	<u>pigs.</u>
No. killed.	-	-	-	-	26
No. inspected.	-	-	-	-	15
Dis other than tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
% affected (other than T.B.)	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only.					
Carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
% of no. inspected affec.	-	-	-	-	-

LICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The four licensed slaughterhouses are only used for the slaughter of swine at the present time. In addition to visits at times of slaughtering, other independent inspections are made.

KNACKERS YARDS.

Regular inspections are made of one knackers yard which is run in conjunction with a fat-boiling business.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Fat-boiling and extraction is the only offensive trade carried out in the district. Following complaints of smell received from residents in the immediate vicinity of the premises an improvement has been effected by the installation of additional plant.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

In April the services of a full-time rodent operator were dispensed with and this work is now carried out as a part-time job by a regular Council employee. During the year 828 visits for inspection and treatment have been made and 109 infestations dealt with.

DISINFECTATION AND DISINFESTATION.

One house has been disinfected after infectious disease and disinfectants available for such cases are formic acid gas, liquid spray, etc. One mattress and a quantity of bedding have been destroyed. There have been few cases of insect infestation reported during the year and all have been promptly dealt with. A cockroach infestation of the Council's refuse tip in Woolley Lane appears to have been brought under control. Methods of disinfection include liquid spray, tip dressing and sulphur dioxide.

FACTORIES.

The total number of factories on the register is 23 including bakehouses and 40 inspections have been made. Cases of inadequate or faulty sanitary accommodation have been dealt with and close co-operation is maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories. One case has been reported under the Outworkers Orders and the premises have been found satisfactory.

WORKPLACES.

There are 34 premises occupied as workplaces.

Before closing my report I would like to pay tribute to the late Mr. Haynes, from whose records much of the above material has been compiled and also to tender my thanks to the officials and staff of the Council for their helpful assistance during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ARNOLD SWINDELLS.

Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices,
Broadbottom Road,
Mottram.
November, 1949.

